

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-14 are pending. By this amendment, Applicants have cancelled claim 14.

Allowance of Claims

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of pending claims 1-13. The Examiner has objected to claim 14 as containing non-elected subject matter. Applicants have herein cancelled claim 14 without prejudice, thus mooted the objection.

Applicants assume that the Examiner, in indicating the allowability of claims 1-13, has searched the entire subject matter of the pending claims, including non-elected species, as is required under proper examining procedure. "[S]hould no prior art be found that anticipates or renders obvious the elected species, the search of the Markush-type claim **will be extended**." M.P.E.P. § 803.02. If Applicants' assumption is incorrect, Applicants request the Examiner search the full scope of the claims or contact the undersigned at 202-408-4173.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1-13 in condition for allowance. This Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER ^{LLP}

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge
any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 20, 2004

By: *Evin C. DeCarlo* *for*
Reg. No. 51,680
Anthony C. Tridico
Reg. No. 45,958

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com